

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 EB-11 COME-00 SCI-06 SAJ-01 NIC-01

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R 270819Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1219

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 1034

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, HU

SUBJECT: FONMIN PUJA ON US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS

1. DURING COURSE OF GENERAL REVIEW OF OUR RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY, I COMMENTED TO FONMIN PUJA THAT FIRST SECRETARY KADAR HAD RECENTLY EXPRESSED HIMSELF FAVORABLY ABOUT IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS BUT HAD IMPLIED THEY WERE NOT MOVING AS RAPIDLY AS MIGHT BE THE CASE. I SAID WE WERE, OF COURSE, WORKING ON MFN, WHICH MIGHT HAVE BEEN WHAT HE HAD IN MIND BUT I WONDERED WHETHER THE FONMIN KNEW WHETHER MR. KADAR MIGHT HAVE HAD OTHER SPECIFICS IN MIND THAT WE COULD NOW BE WORKING ON. PUJA SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT SPECIFICALLY KADAR MIGHT HAVE BEEN REFERRING TO, BUT THAT AMONG THEMSELVES THEY USUALLY SPOKE FIRST ABOUT MFN, NEXT THE RETURN OF THE CROWN, AND THEN ABOUT SMALLER AND LESS IMPORTANT ISSUES SUCH AS VIETNAM AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

2. I MADE NO COMMENT ABOUT THE CROWN, SIMPLY REITERATING THAT WE REGARDED MFN AS THE MAJOR ISSUE TO WORK ON RIGHT NOW, BUT THAT IF THERE WERE OTHER SECONDARY AREAS WHERE PROGRESS COULD BE MADE WE WOULD BE INTERESTED. I THEN MADE A FEW BRIEF COMMENTS ABOUT ONE ASPECT OF THE VIETNAM PROBLEM (SEPTTEL). I ADDED THAT I WAS SURPRISED

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ABOUT HIS COMMENTS ABOUT THE MIDDLE EAST, BECAUSE IT

DID NOT SEEM TO ME THAT OUR VIEWS WERE SO FAR APART
NOR THAT IT HAD BEEN MUCH OF AN ISSUE IN OUR BILATERAL
RELATIONS. HE THEN REFERRED TO OUR INTERVENTION WITH
THEM AND YUGOSLAVIA ABOUT THE SOVIET "OVERFLIGHTS" DURING
THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT, SAYING THEY HAD NOT COMPLAINED
TO THE FRG FOR ALLOWING US TO USE THEIR BASES. I
REPLIED THAT ID DID NOT THINK IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ARGUE
ABOUT A PAST INCIDENT, AND THAT THE MIDDLE EAST SEEMED TO
ME A MINOR QUESTION IN THE BILATERAL CONTEXT.

3. COMMENT: SUBSEQUENTLY, PUJA GAVE A FAVORABLE EVALUATION
OF US-HUNGARIAN RELATIONS IN PARLIAMENT, STATING A DESIRE
"FOR COMPLETE NORMALIZATION" AND INDICATING THAT THE AREAS
HOLDING THIS RESULT BACK WERE NOT ON THEIR SIDE BUT ON OURS.
(OBVIOUSLY HE WAS REFERRING TO MFN--WHICH HE BRIEFLY
MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY--AND THE CROWN).
PEDERSEN

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NNN

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